(b) if so, the number of persons, so far, been sent to Iraq by private agencies;

(c) whether there is ban on sending ex-servicemen for jobs like guarding key installations in Iraq;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor in view of growing danger to foreigners in Iraq; and

(e) the measures taken to ensure that these private agencies stop immediately their activities of sending ex-servicemen to Iraq for jobs?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information collected from various sources including our Mission in Kuwait, presently there are approximately 5042 Indians working in Iraq.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d). Does not arise.

(e) Several measures have been taken which include, *inter-alia*, serving of show-cause notices to registered recruiting agents who reportedly violated Govt. instructions regarding recruitment for deployment in Iraq, FIRs have been filed against those private agencies who are not registered recruiting agents and foreign companies indulging in diversion of Indian workers from Kuwait and Jordan to Iraq have been blacklisted.

Educated unemployed youths

†449. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed youths in the country other than educated unemployed youths who have registered themselves with employment exchanges;

(b) the action Government propose to take to provide employment to educated unemployed youths; and

(c) Government's action plan in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) As per the last quinquennial employment and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

unemployment survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000, educated unemployed youth (with Secondary and Higher qualifications in the age group 15 years and above) on usual status basis were around 54.8 lakhs. Number of educated job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges as on 31st December 2002 (latest available) was around 296.7 Lakhs.

(b) and (c) Government is targeting creation of 5 crore job opportunities over the 10th Plan period. This will help the educated unemployed youth also.

Percentage of domestic working children

450. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of children below the age of 14 working as domestic workers in the country;

(b) the cases of violence, abuse and ill treatment of child labour reported during the last one year; and

(c) whether Government propose to regulate the domestic labour to ensure their human rights?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SISH RAM OLA): (a) Separate data on domestic child labour is not available.

(b) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 does not cover the issues of violence, abuse and ill treatment, hence, the information on these issues is not maintained by the Ministry of Labour.

(c) Domestic workers are a part of the large unorganised sector. Government feels that a separate legislation to regulate domestic workers is not necessary at this stage.

Exploitation of labourers

451. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that majority of labourers of exporting units in NOIDA, Okhla, New Delhi are contract workers, deprived of minimum wages, increment, bonus, ESI, PF and other